

OSIG: GACarver, J
UNIT: DCI/SA/A

Approved For Release 2004/08/19 : CIA-RDP80R01720R000600050011-5

MESSAGE FORM

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EXT: [REDACTED]
DATE: 20 Mar 70

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION

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21 01 03z MAR 70

CITE DIRECTOR

0178993 7

1. ON 19 MARCH, [REDACTED] HAD LENGTHY, RELAXED CONVERSATION WITH REPRESENTATIVE JOHN J. RHODES (REPUBLICAN, ARIZONA), WHO IS LEAVING SHORTLY FOR A TRIP TO VIETNAM, LAOS AND CAMBODIA. MR. RHODES IS MEMBER HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE AND CHAIRMAN OF INFORMAL REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE, HAVING REPLACED LAIRD IN LATTER POST WHEN HE BECAME SECDEF. PURPOSE OF SESSION WAS INFORMAL BRIEFING ON CURRENT EVENTS IN LAOS, CAMBODIA, VIETNAM AND, TO MUCH LESSER EXTENT, THAILAND.

2. RHODES IS NOT MEMBER [REDACTED] SUBCOMMITTEE, BUT HIS VOICE CARRIES CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT IN HOUSE REPUBLICAN CIRCLES. HE IS ANXIOUS TO LEARN AS MUCH AS HE CAN ABOUT INDO CHINA AREA ON FORTHCOMING TRIP. HE EXPRESSED DESIRE TO SEE [REDACTED]

(IF LATTER NOT TOO BUSY) [REDACTED]

HE SAID HE WOULD MAKE THE OVERTURES IF TIME

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

AUTHENTICATING
OFFICER

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018993

TO

PAGE TWO

AND CIRCUMSTANCES PERMITTED.

3. RHODES IS VERY COURTEOUS AND SOMEWHAT DECEPTIVELY LOW-KEY. HE KNOWS A GOOD DEAL ABOUT THE AREA AND HAS GREAT INTEREST IN IT, PARTLY BECAUSE ONE OF HIS TWO SONS IS A CAPTAIN IN TUY HOA WORKING ON THE PHOENIX PROGRAM. HE DOES NOT LIKE FORMAL BRIEFINGS AND DOES LIKE INFORMAL BUT COMPREHENSIVE CONVERSATIONS. HE SEEMS WELL DISPOSED TO [] AND SPOKE WELL OF OUR EFFORTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

4. IF RHODES CONTACTS ANY OR ALL OF YOU, OPERATIONAL DETAILS SHOULD BE AVOIDED BUT WITH THAT CAVEAT, CANDOR WILL BE WELL RECEIVED AND RHODES SEEMS WELL AWARE OF THE NEED FOR DISCRETION ON HIS PART. PLEASE REPORT ANY CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM TO HEADQUARTERS.

END OF MESSAGE

Legislative Counsel Maury

By Phone

George A. Carver, J.

SAVA
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OFFICER